

OPERATIONS FORUM – May 22, 2002

Carolyn Brown called the meeting to order and asked those present to introduce themselves.

DWD Reports

WtW/WIA/IMPACT - Bill Miller

WIB Directors have the information about extending WtW grants through June 2003. A question had been raised – since the statewide database will remain open through June 03, could an area continue to report activities even if the grant is not extended? DWD's response – No. Bill recommended extending the grant and keeping a small amount for reporting/follow-up services.

Bill reported that there has been no word on IMPACT for next year. There are lots of rumors but no decisions.

Final/official WIA allocations for the new PY have been announced.

Monitoring - Ron Boshears

DWD monitoring has been completed for the year. Final reports are being issued soon. During the next few months, monitoring will occur with special projects. The next WIA/WtW monitoring will probably begin next January and, with the exception of IPIC, there will be one monitoring visit for all programs per WSA.

Performance/Reporting - Rick Lindsey

Based upon discussions at Operations Forum, Users Group and with others, tracking for Non-Registered Core has been dropped for the time being.

Rick led a discussion on Younger Youth outcomes and goals. He reported that there seems to be a lack of proper recording of goals and that the numbers may not be accurate. "YY" goals begin at the time of enrollment. One has 365 days to complete a goal – if there is no reporting by the 365th day that the goal was to be achieved, it automatically is reported in the system as not meet/negative outcome. If there is a "gap" in goals, the state's software program calculates/creates an artificial goal with the result being a negative outcome. Therefore there must be, during enrollment, continuous participation/reporting of an active goal. Rick further explained that the calculation of this goal is "bizarre". He noted that if a Positive Outcome is recorded within 365 days, then the positive outcome is reported at that time - but a Negative Outcome occurs either at the one year/365th day or at time of youth's exit from then program if the exit occurs prior to the 365th day. Discussion followed.

Rick reminded everyone that this is the time of the year to be reporting Credential outcomes. He noted that often overlooked are the system-wide performance outcomes. The next performance report will be out in mid-June.

Dislocated Workers & Related – Thom Heeter, Betty Culley, Karen Rench

Thom updated everyone on the ongoing “rescission saga”. DOL continues to delay, hoping that Congress will rescind the rescission. Indiana is being hit by 6% (\$600,000) and DWD is looking at using the state’s 10% funds for this, with little impact on the WSAs.

Allocations, including Rapid Response, for next year is out. When requesting additional funds, Thom recommended that requests be very good with program and fiscal people working together to develop a proposal with good justification for funding a project. He anticipates there will be more information required for project budgets, such as how much for training, intensive and core. DWD may request quarterly activity numbers/expenses so that the state can evaluate how the program’s progressing.

Betty reviewed the status of TAA and NAFTA activity in the state and currently there are 10 TAA applications waiting for decisions and 8 NAFTA.

Ticket to Work information included that VR is working on an MOU and, when complete, DWD will review. Maximus has scheduled workshops in Ft Wayne (June 25) and Indianapolis (June 27). Linda Gilbert is getting more information and will share.

Karen reported that the Indianapolis Metro WorkOne office is closing June 14. Carolyn Brown reported IPIC will be relocating as well.

Funding

The topic for discussion was funding. What have areas done to diversify? What strategies have been developed? IPIC has sought out grants and Carolyn reported that a recent request for IPIC and C7 to serve persons with disabilities was denied. KV Works has had a successful youth summer program and has enlisted the youth in local fundraising – bake sales, garage sales, nights at local restaurants, chicken dinner, softball tourney. Funds raised will all go to the summer camps. Some areas continue fee for services – employer testing – although the economy with its ups and downs has had an impact. South Central, Southwest and Shawnee Trace is applying for a H1B Grant for Health Care while IPCI, working with C7, is applying for one in Health Care and IT.

Summer Meeting Schedule

Decided not to meet in June or August but will next meet on Wednesday, July 24 at a site to be determined.

In attendance:

Carolyn Brown, IPIC

Mark Kevitt, Circle 7

Miche Grant, CWI & LLI

Linda Thompson, Shawnee Trace

Cindy Donnelly, Job Source

Karen Rench, DWD

Ron Boshears, DWD

Kitty Meyer, KV Works

Jeff Jordan, KV Works

Sheila Hess, VU/Shawnee Trace/South Central

Bill Miller, DWD

Thom Heeter, DWD

Betty Culley, DWD

Rick Lindsey, DWD

Sherry Szmanda, NIWIB